

MEETING NOTES

NAME OF GROUP: Urban Design Committee

DATE, TIME AND

PLACE OF MEETING: Wednesday, September 1, 2004, 3:00 p.m., Room 206, County-City Building, 2nd Floor, 555 South 10th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

MEMBERS AND OTHERS

IN ATTENDANCE:

Members: JoAnne Kissel and Scott Sullivan present. Michael Eckert, Third World Oforah, Dennis Scheer, Gordon Scholz, and Kim Todd absent.

Others: Jeff Cole (Urban Design Department); Chris Schroeder, Steve Henrichsen, Ed Zimmer, and Michele Abendroth (Planning Department)

STATED PURPOSE

OF THE MEETING: Regular Meeting of the Urban Design Committee

The meeting began at 3:03 p.m.

Approval of Meeting Notes of August 4, 2004

Due to the lack of a quorum, the meeting notes of August 4, 2004 were not voted upon.

Recommendation on sidewalk cafe: Marz Bar.

Scott Sullivan stated that several months ago, an idea was instigated to have a sidewalk café at Marz Bar. The owner of Marz Bar was very interested and would like to implement a two phase concept. The first phase is in front of their building, with phase 2 in front of the theater. They discussed this with the Sidewalk Café Committee. They have an issue with alcohol going across the exit to the theater, thereby crossing an unlicensed area. However, the Mayor would like see this happen. In the meantime, they are working on phase 1, and will work on phase 2 at a later time. He would like to get the committee's input on phase 1.

Next, Mr. Sullivan presented two options for the railing and facade treatments. Option A has some individual letters on the face of the building. Just below that, there is a projecting terra cotta cornice and an awning. They are proposing a built horizontal canopy which will give some shading to the tables against the building. At the south point, there is steel construction with a series of posts and light bollards. From those posts, there would be a steel trellis extending back, perhaps with a corrugated roof.

Option B is a series of individual fabric awnings, each one with one of the letters spelling Marz Bar. Instead of a fixed roofed canopy, it is a steel channel that comes out from the building. The element in the front is similar to Option A, but is simpler and doesn't have lights.

Mr. Sullivan feels that there is a more playfulness with Option B versus a more classic look on Option A. Option A would also be more costly.

Ms. Kissel stated that option A is a more permanent solution and if the budget allows, she feels Option A would be better. Mr. Zimmer stated that he prefers Option A as well.

Mr. Zimmer noted that he would prefer not to have the second row of tables in phase 2, because it allows for a better flow of traffic without the jog in the fence line.

Mr. Sullivan stated that he will come forward with the final ideas in 30 days.

Neighborhood Design Standards modifications.

Mr. Zimmer updated the Committee on the revisions of the Neighborhood Design Standards. The Planning Department would like to extend the responsibilities of the Urban Design Committee. The first body of appeal regarding Neighborhood Design Standards has been the Historic Preservation Commission, but they would like to change it to this Committee.

The new process would grant increased authority to the Planning Director to approve a project following a notification procedure to neighbors. They have tried to make several changes to try to fit the objective standards to diverse areas. Specific changes include the areas of roof pitch, fenestration, corner properties, porches, garages, and parking.

Mr. Sullivan suggested making a reference to elevated porches being consistent with the neighborhood.

Mr. Henrichsen stated that this item will be on the Planning Commission agenda on October 13th. He asked the members to provide any comments on the revisions to him prior to the next Urban Design Committee meeting.

Misc.

There was no discussion under this item.

Upcoming items (for October 6): Antelope Valley Planned Unit Development (PUD) overlay and design standards.

No discussion took place under this item.

The meeting concluded at 4:21 p.m.